

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: LECOMTE

Serial No.:

Filed: July 3, 2001

For: Method and Device For Processing A Gas Containing Hydrogen
Sulfide And Sulfur Dioxide, Comprising A Stage Of Removal
Of Solid By-Products

Group: 1754

Examiner: Vanoy, T.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 3, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application, please amend the above-
identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before the paragraph beginning at line 2, insert the following.

This is a divisional application of US Serial No. 09/413,889, filed October 7,
1999.

Page 12, amend the paragraph beginning at line 3 to read as follows.

With departing from the scope of the invention, the means 27 for extracting
the by-products at the interface level can be situated in the vicinity of connecting line
17 as shown by the dotted lines in Figure 1.

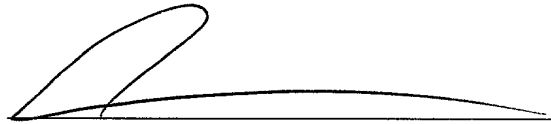
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits of this application. A marked up copy of the amended specification is attached.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 612.37608VX1), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Schiavelli', is written over a horizontal line.

Alan E. Schiavelli
Registration No. 32,087

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REWRITTEN MARKED UP COPY

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 12, amend the paragraph beginning at line 3 to read as follows.

With departing from the scope of the invention, the means 27 for extracting the by-products at the interface level can be situated in the vicinity of connecting line 17 as shown by the dotted lines in Figure 1.